DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 305 206 RC 017 019

TITLE	Interstate Migrant Education Council: A Special Project of the Education Commission of the States. Annual Report 1987-1988.
SPONS AGENCY	Education Commission of the States, Denver, Colo.
PUB DATE	88
NOTE	19p.; Prepared by the Interstate Migrant Education Council. For 1986-1987 report, see RC 017 000.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Annual Reports; Conferences; Educational Legislation; High Risk Students; Information Dissemination; Institutional Cooperation; *Interstate Programs; *Migrant Education; Migrant Problems; *Migrant Programs; Political Issues
IDENTIFIERS	*Interstate Migrant Education Council

ABSTRACT

Planning and implementing the National Forum for Youth At Risk, extensive work on reauthorization legislation, and dissemination of research and information on migrant education were the major accomplishments of the Interstate Migrant Education Council's (IMEC) 1987-88 project year. IMEC's members, representing 17 states with 85 percent of the nation's rural migrant youth, were engaged in a variety of activities aimed at increasing the awareness of migrant students' needs among legislators, educators, and business leaders. The overall goals set by IMEC are aimed at increasing awareness of the needs of migrant students among all sectors of society, facilitating interstate cooperation among migrant education programs, and developing unique means to minimize the difficulties faced by the migrant student population. A host of activities over the past project year resulted in major achievements by IMEC, including: planning and implementation of the National Forum for Youth At Risk; collaboration with the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education on recommendations for Chapter I reauthorization; distribution of "Migrant Education: A Consolidated View," the most comprehensive research effort yet undertaken by the IMEC; coordination of efforts with major education organizations; maintenance of linkages with federal programs and agencies; coordination with other migrant programs; participation in state-based workshops, conferences, and meetings; and publication of articles on migrant education. Two states, Kansas and New Mexico, were added to the membership in 1987-88. Priorities during 1989 will include early childhood services, the transition from secondary to post-secondary education, and migrant education funding. (TES)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED305206

Interstate Migrant Education Council

Annual Report

1987-1988

A Special Project of the
Education Commission of the States

The Honorable
William D. Ford, Chairman

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

S. V. Allen

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☑ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

RC017019

ANNUAL REPORT

1987-88

Interstate Migrant Education Council

A Special Project of
The Education Commission of the States

MEMBER STATES

Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Florida
Kansas
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Texas
Washington

Submitted by: **Congressman William D. Ford,** Chairman
Interstate Migrant Education Council

Enactment of the Hawkins-Stafford Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988 was a major victory in Congress for migrant education. The legislation, which replaced the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act, reauthorizes Chapter I programs including the Migrant Education program. Thirteen other Federal elementary and secondary programs were also extended and many new initiatives were enacted, including the National Commission on Migrant Education.

The legislation extends and revises migrant programs. One of the most significant changes is the expansion of the age range of students served from 5-17 to 3-21. This change recognizes the importance of early childhood programs and the need for continued services beyond the normal age of high school graduation for this group of severely disadvantaged young people.

The Interstate Migrant Education Council (IMEC), in cooperation with the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education (NASDME), played an important role in the formation of Chapter I reauthorization legislation. The organizations provided valuable documentation, testimony, and numerous recommendations—nearly all of which were included in the final version of the legislation.

A major accomplishment of IMEC during the past project year was the highly successful National Forum for Youth At Risk. The Forum, held in December, 1987, in Washington, D.C., was co-sponsored by IMEC and the Education Commission of the States with support from a number of national organizations and corporations. The Forum, attended by nearly 600 people, was one of the most impressive and productive events of its kind I have ever attended.

This annual report summarizes the activities of IMEC during the 1987-88 project year. I hope you will review this report and let us know if you have any suggestions for the Council.

IMEC continues to work diligently on behalf of the children of migrant workers to afford them access to quality education. Our highly talented and committed membership is poised to continue its significant efforts.

William D. Ford, Member of Congress
15th District, Michigan
Chairman, Interstate Migrant Education Council

Interstate Migrant Education Council

1988 Membership

Congressman William D. Ford, Chairman

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alaska
Mr. Harvey Cromett
Program Manager, Migrant Education Program
State Department of Education

Arizona
Dr. J. O. Maynes, Jr.
Director, Migrant Child Education
State Department of Education

Arkansas
Mr. George Doty
Director, Migrant Education
State Department of Education

California
Dr. Ramiro Reyes
Assistant Superintendent
Division of Categorical Support Programs
State Department of Public Instruction
Dr. Jack Schaeffer
Director of Migrant Education
State Department of Public Instruction

Florida
Dr. Ulysses Horne
Administrator, Federal Compensatory Education
State Department of Education
Dr. Donald Van Fleet
Director, Division of Public Schools
State Department of Education

Kansas
Mr. Kenneth Gentry
Coordinator, State and Federal Programs
State Department of Education

Massachusetts
Mr. Ernest Mazzone
Director, Bureau of Transitional Bilingual Education and Migrant Program
State Department of Education

Michigan
Ms. Cecilia Santa Ana
Supervisor of Migrant Education
State Department of Education

Minnesota
Mr. Peter Moreno
Supervisor, Migrant Education Unit
State Department of Education

New Jersey
Dr. Sylvia Roberts
Director, Division of Compensatory/ Bilingual Education
State Department of Education

New Mexico
Mr. Tony Archuleta
Chapter I Migrant Specialist
Migrant Student Record Transfer System

New York
Mr. Richard Bove
Chief, Bureau of Migrant Education
State Education Department

North Carolina
Mr. Daniel Pratt
Assistant Director, Division of Support Programs
State Department of Public Instruction

Oregon
Mr. Jose Garcia
Coordinator, Migrant Education Program
Oregon Department of Education

Pennsylvania
Dr. Manuel Recio
Director, Migrant Education
State Department of Education

Texas
Mr. Frank Contreras
Director, Division of Special Programs
Texas Education Agency
Dr. Ruben Olivares
Assistant Commissioner for Accreditation
Texas Education Agency

Washington
Mr. Raul de la Rosa
Director, Supplemental Education Programs
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Mr. Troy Rinker
Director, Migrant Student Record Transfer System
Arkansas State Department of Education
Dr. Robert Palaich
Senior Policy Analyst
Programs and Policy Studies
Education Commission of the States
Dr. John Staehle
Director, Migrant Education Office
U.S. Education Department

INVITED OBSERVERS

Ms. Cecilia Santa Ana
President, National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education
Mr. Winford "Joe" Miller
Policy Analyst for NASDME (liaison between IMEC and the Association)
Ms. Randa Safady
President, High School Equivalency Program/College Assistance Migrant Program (HEP/CAMP)
State Directors of the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education, from non-IMEC member states

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alaska
Ms. Toni Kahklen-Jones
Director, Educational Program Support
State Department of Education
Ms. Edna MacLean
Special Assistant to the Commissioner of Education
State Department of Education

Arizona
Dr. Frances Amabisca
Retired Superintendent
Avondale Elementary Schools
Ms. Margy McGonagill
Director, Federal Relations
University of Arizona

Arkansas
Mr. Herman Lubker
Retired Superintendent
Bald Knob Schools
Dr. Ruth Steele
Director, General Education
State Department of Education

California
Ms. Agnes Chan
Member, California State Board of Education
Mr. Eugene Even
Superintendent, Butte County Schools

Florida
The Honorable Don C. Childers
Member, Florida State Senate
The Honorable Elizabeth Metcalf
Member, Florida House of Representatives

Kansas
The Honorable Max Moomaw
Member, State House of Representatives
Assistant House Majority Leader
Mr. William Musick
Chairman, State Board of Education

Massachusetts
Mr. John Correiro
Superintendent, Fall River Schools
Dr. Fred Williams
Deputy Commissioner of Education
State Department of Education

Michigan
The Honorable Donald Gilmer
Member, State House of Representatives
Dr. Gumecindo Salas
Member, State Board of Education

Minnesota
Ms. Jessie Montano
Supervisor, Limited English Proficient Education Unit
State Department of Education
The Honorable James Pehler
Member, Minnesota State Senate

New Jersey
Mr. Peter B. Contini
Gloucester County Superintendent
Mr. John T. Klagholz
President, State Board of Education

New Mexico
Mrs. Mary Beavis
Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Support
State Department of Education
The Honorable J. Paul Taylor
Member, New Mexico House of Representatives

New York
Dr. Bruce Crowder
Assistant Commissioner for District Superintendents
State Education Department
The Honorable Maurice Hinchey
Member, New York Assembly

North Carolina
Dr. Theodore Drain
Assistant State Superintendent for Support Services
State Department of Public Instruction
Mr. John W. Everett
Director, Chapter I
Beaufort County Schools

Oregon
Dr. Ronald Burge
Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
Oregon Department of Education
The Honorable Bruce Hugo
Member, Oregon State House of Representatives

Pennsylvania
The Honorable William Goodling
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
Mrs. Sheilah Vance-Lewis
Special Assistant to the Secretary of Education
State Department of Education

Texas
Mrs. Mary Helen Berlanga
Member, State Board of Education
Ms. Delia Pompa
Assistant Commissioner for Program Development
Texas Education Agency

Washington
Dr. Frank Brouillet
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Dr. Dennis Peterson
Superintendent, North Central Educational Service District

STAFF MEMBERS
John D. Perry, Senior Project Consultant
Dr. Jim L. Gonzales, Senior Policy Analyst
Emmadine Speaks, Administrative Assistant

IMEC members Margy McGonagill, Arizona, and James Pehler, Minnesota, co-chair the Council's Funding of Migrant Education Task Force.

Executive Summary

Planning and implementation of the National Forum for Youth At Risk, extensive work on reauthorization legislation, and dissemination of research and information on migrant education were the major accomplishments of the Interstate Migrant Education Council's (IMEC's) 1987-88 project year.

IMEC's members, representing 17 states with 85 percent of the nation's rural migrant youth, were engaged in a variety of activities aimed at increasing the awareness of migrant students' needs among legislators, educators, and business leaders.

The overall goals set by IMEC are aimed at increasing awareness of the needs of migrant students among all sectors of society, facilitating interstate cooperation among migrant education programs, and developing unique means to minimize the difficulties faced by the migrant student population.

A host of activities over the past project year resulted in major achievements by IMEC, including:

- Planning and implementation of the National Forum for Youth At Risk in cooperation with the Education Commission of the States. Forum activities in the states culminated in a major conference December 10-12 in Washington, D.C.
- Collaboration with the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education on recommendations for Chapter I reauthorization. The final legislation enacted incorporated virtually all of the organizations' recommendations.
- Distribution of *Migrant Education: A Consolidated View,* the most comprehensive research effort yet undertaken by IMEC. The publication generated national media attention and has been requested by more than 1,700 individuals and organizations throughout the nation.
- Coordination of efforts with major education organizations, including the Education Commission of the States, National Conference of State Legislatures, American Association of School Administrators, and the Council of Chief State School Officers.
- Maintenance of linkages with federal programs and agencies including health, agriculture, labor, and Head Start.
- Coordination with other migrant programs such as the High School Equivalency Program/College Assistance Migrant Program, the Migrant Student Record Transfer System, and the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education.
- Participation by IMEC staff in state-based workshops, conferences, etc.
- Articles on migrant education published in the *State Education Leader,* a publication of the Education Commission of the States.

Elizabeth Metcalf, Florida, and Theodore Drain, North Carolina, co-chair IMEC's Early Childhood Services Task Force.

Operational items of significance which occurred during the 1987-88 project year included:

- Addition of two new states to IMEC—Kansas and New Mexico, bringing total membership to 17 states.
- Council and Steering Committee meetings in Washington, D.C.; San Diego, California; and Atlanta, Georgia.

About the organization

The Interstate Migrant Education Council (IMEC) has played a major role in the migrant education program since 1976 through a cooperative agreement with the states for a consortium to address major issues affecting migrant students. Initially, the project was called the Interstate Migrant Education Task Force. The consortium was reconstituted in 1983 and became the Council at that time.

IMEC is a special project of the Education Commission of the States (ECS). The primary purpose of the Council is to serve as a forum to help resolve some of the educational difficulties experienced by mobile migrant students through promotion of interstate cooperation. Administrative offices for IMEC are located at ECS headquarters in Denver, Colorado.

A staff comprised of: John D. Perry, senior project consultant; Dr. Jim L. Gonzales, senior policy analyst; and Emmadine Speaks, administrative assistant, works with a Steering Committee and the Council to achieve project goals. The Steering Committee is made up of State Directors of Migrant Education from member states plus ex-officio members from ECS, the U.S. Education Department, and the Migrant Student Record Transfer System (MSRTS). Observers also are invited from the High School Equivalency Program (HEP)/ College Assistance Migrant Project (CAMP), and the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education (NASDME). The Council consists of 34 members from participating states and includes congressmen, chief state school officers, state school board members, state legislators, local school district and government officials, and key state education department officials. Both the Committee and the Council are chaired by the Honorable William D. Ford, Congressman from Michigan.

IMEC operates with funds contributed by member states, which commit a sum according to an agreed upon schedule of Chapter I Migrant Education Program Funds of the Hawkins-Stafford Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988.

The Governance structure

The Steering Committee, comprised of 20 members and three ex-officio members, performs several functions related to the operation of the project, including selection of the chair. The Committee contracts with ECS to house the project, hires staff, approves the annual operational plan and the budget, and conducts an annual assessment of the Council's activities.

Project activities are initiated by the Council, which is comprised of individuals from member states. Each member of the Council has one vote, as does the chair. The state directors of migrant education or state agency representatives serve the Council in a non-voting advisory capacity.

The Council establishes priorities, determines specific goals, commissions

Amanda Broun, Chief Education Counsel, U.S. Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, described Sen. Edward Kennedy's "Smart Start" legislation at IMEC meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

research, provides testimony, and publishes its findings and resolutions. Forums, workshops, and seminars are sponsored by the Council to help implement its goals.

Council goals

The Council has established four broad goals as continuing priorities to guide its work:

1) To continue to develop broad-based understanding among education, business, and government decision makers in order to create an awareness of the unique needs of the migrant student population.

2) To continue to facilitate opportunities for interstate cooperation through sharing of model programs that meet the needs of migrant students.

3) To identify major barriers and develop alternative solutions for minimizing the difficulties attributable to student mobility, intermittent attendance, limited English proficiency, and other factors.

4) To administer the project in an efficient, timely, and appropriate manner in order to insure the completion of proposed goals and objectives.

The manner in which the goals are achieved during the project year is based on activities carried out by the staff, Steering Committee, and Council. Among the principal activities undertaken during the 1987-88 project year were:

- Continuation of IMEC efforts to create linkages, share information, and initiate activities on behalf of the migrant student population.
- Coordination of Council activities with major educational organizations, such as ECS, National Conference of State Legislatures, American Association of School Administrators, and the Council of Chief State School Officers.
- Coordination with other major migrant education organizations, including HEP/CAMP, MSRTS, and NASDME.
- IMEC staff participation in state-based workshops, seminars, etc.

Gumecindo Salas, Michigan, and Delia Pompa, Texas, co-chair IMEC's Transition from Secondary to Post-Secondary Education Task Force.

IMEC Steering Committee members Manuel Recio, Pennsylvania, and Frank Contreras, Texas, addressed reauthorization legislation issues at IMEC meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

At the March, 1988, meeting of IMEC and its Steering Committee in San Diego, the Council began its process of setting priorities for 1988 and 1989. Council members completed questionnaires, which were reviewed by a panel comprised of Council members and a representative of the Steering Committee. The panel discussed the responses in an open forum.

A top priority of the Council over the past two years was preparation of recommendations for submission to Congress on the reauthorization of the Chapter I Migrant Education Program. Staff from the offices of Congressmen William D. Ford and William Goodling, including Thomas Wolanin and Kristin Gilbert from Rep. Ford's office and Jo-Marie St. Martin from Rep. Goodling's office, were instrumental in the Council's review and development of new legislation.

Similarly, the Council has benefited from the joint sharing of information, priorities, criticism and contributions offered by a wide range of organizations and individuals including the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education (NASDME), the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE), and others. The reauthorization process was a collective, bipartisan effort as exemplified by the unanimous support received by the measure in Congress.

Another top priority of the Council has been follow-up with ECS, CCSSO, and the states on the National Forum for Youth At Risk. Forum-related activities will continue to be a Council priority through 1989.

Accomplishments

A wide array of activities during the past project year has resulted in notable accomplishments by the Council, including:

- Co-sponsorship with ECS of The National Forum For Youth At Risk, a major conference held in Washington, D.C., in December, 1987. Nearly 600 Forum participants heard presentations by noted authorities on at-risk issues and participated in work groups which developed recommendations for policies addressed at reducing the nation's school dropout rate.

Because migrant education has dealt with a student population perhaps at greatest risk of not completing secondary education, IMEC took the initiative to insure a major role for migrant education in the National Forum. State directors of migrant education and Council members played key roles in Forum activities, including serving on Youth-At-Risk Task Forces in more than 40 participating states.

The Forum synthesized the variety of activities conducted over the past several years related to dropout issues, and pursued solutions through follow-up activities. Forum participants put forth policy and program recommendations at the federal, state, and local levels for policymakers to consider.

Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas, an IMEC-member state, served as chair of the Forum. Participants included governors, chief state school officers, state education board members, key legislators, health and welfare officials, business representatives and urban superintendents. Nationally recognized educa-

tion experts, business leaders, and elected officials spoke at the Forum. The Forum was a major success and should help to establish the education agenda through the year 2000.

Forum participants generated numerous recommendations for at-risk programs and policies during work-group sessions. The major themes emerging from the work groups included the need for: early intervention; public-private sector collaboration; expanded parental involvement in school programs; school-community partnerships; integrated program planning; structural changes in the education system to better meet the needs of at-risk students; and improved system responsiveness to the clientele population rather than clientele responsiveness to the system.

IMEC members and staff played an integral role in all aspects of the Forum. Because of the unique and innovative nature of migrant education, IMEC can help guide policy decisions for all at-risk youth on a nationwide basis.

In the months following the National Forum, ECS initiated several follow-up activities, including the production of a 10-minute videotape, "A Future for All Children," which contains highlights of several of the Forum presentations.

ECS has prepared a publication summarizing the outcomes of the National Forum, which will be distributed to all Forum participants and other interested parties.

Forum participants were given the opportunity earlier this year to apply for ECS grants to conduct state forums. Grants in the amount of $1,000 each were awarded to Delaware, Florida, Michigan, Nebraska, Utah, and Washington, D.C.

ECS also awarded technical assistance grants to the following states to support ongoing efforts on behalf of at-risk youth: Iowa, $3,000; Maryland, $1,000; New Mexico, $5,000; North Dakota, $1,000; Ohio, $5,000; Oklahoma, $5,000; and Utah, $1,000.

IMEC Steering Committee member Ramiro Reyes hosted IMEC's San Diego meeting on behalf of California's State Department of Public Instruction. Congressman William D. Ford, Chairman of IMEC, and Kristin Gilbert, Rep. Ford's staff assistant, are seated at the head table in photo.

- Adoption of IMEC recommendations by Congress for Chapter I reauthorization legislation. A cooperative effort with NASDME to provide data, testimony, and recommendations to Congress related to the Hawkins-Stafford Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988 resulted in the inclusion of virtually all of the organizations' recommendations related to migrant education.

IMEC members reviewed every section of current legislation relating to migrant education and asked migrant educators to make recommendations for changes. Each of the recommendations was debated by the full Council and brought to a vote. The consensus achieved was conveyed to Congress and significantly affected the final legislation.

- Dissemination of *Migrant Education: A Consolidated View*, the most comprehensive research effort undertaken by IMEC. The work is a descriptive analysis of the national migrant education program, with an historical account of its development. Included in the document is an overview of the demographics of the migrant population, the legislative and funding history of the migrant education pro-

gram, and the service network. The effects of the educational reform movement on migrant students also is discussed. The publication was described in news media across the country and more than 1,700 copies have been requested.

• Publication of articles on migrant education in *State Education Leader,* an ECS publication distributed nationally.

An article in the Fall 1987 edition of the *Leader,* written by Congressman William D. Ford, described legislation initiated by Rep. Ford which created a National Commission on Migrant Education. The Commission, which was included in the final legislation reauthorizing the federal migrant education program, will operate as an independent agency within the executive branch. Composed of 12 members, the Commission will include members appointed by the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House and the President and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Commission will gather statistics on migrants and migrant education programs and evaluate the full range of migrant services.

An article in the Spring 1988 edition of the *Leader* outlined migrant parental involvement programs in California and Texas as examples of how migrant programs across the nation make parents part of the learning process. Parents and migrant educators discussed the positive effects of involving parents in the education of their children. Parent advisory councils required by federal law in each state were described. The states have highly successful parent training and home visitation components in their migrant education programs.

The Summer 1988 edition of the *Leader* included an article about health care programs for migrant students. The article pointed out the critical need for additional funding for migrant health centers as well as for the dissemination of health information. Various states have innovative programs addressing the health needs of migrant children. New York State devotes $30,000 of its Chapter I migrant education funding to pay for health services for migrant children when such services are not available from any other source. New York utilizes a voucher system to secure private health care for migrant children when the need arises. The Pennsylvania migrant education program developed a preventive health curriculum for use nationwide, utilizing survey data on migrant education, health centers and families.

Operational items of significance which occurred during the past project year included:

• Addition of two new IMEC member states: Kansas and New Mexico.

• Steering Committee and Council meetings in Washington, D.C., San Diego, California, and Atlanta, Georgia.

• Participation by IMEC staff in various migrant education conferences throughout the nation, including: Arizona Leadership Annual Workshop for Migrant Educators; Florida Technical Assistance Meeting for Chapter I Coordinators; California Task Force on Special Education; Western Stream Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona; and the Pennsylvania Migrant Education Summer Training Conference.

• Publication of an ERIC/CRESS report on migrant special education.

• Dissemination of pertinent migrant education information to IMEC members on a regular basis.

• Preparation of proceedings reports for each Council meeting as well as quarterly reports on IMEC activities.

IMEC members Theodore Drain, North Carolina, William Mulnix, Alaska, and Toni Kahklen-Jones Alaska, at IMEC meeting in Atlanta.

State Education Leader

Migrant education: Looking at the future

William D. Ford

Since the National Migrant Education Program began in the mid-1960s, hundreds of thousands of young people have had the opportunity to

Among the factors affecting the content and approach of migrant education are the changes in agricultural economics due to worldwide competition, the new immigration laws which will affect in an indeterminate way the makeup of the agricultural labor force and the shift in the skill levels required by employers.

The National Commission on Migrant Education would operate as an

commission ... the future pattern of mig... recommend the appropriate education... services. Through the gathering of all the available research data on migrant education and a thorough evaluation of the network of services, the commission should create a blueprint of changes needed to meet the needs of migrant children over the remainder of the century.

Increased national attention to policy issues affecting all youth at risk has served to highlight the importance of educational programs aimed at keeping students in school. To reduce the dropout rate, educators must find ways to make learning vital and relevant to young people. Migrant education has

Parental involvement large part of migrant education program

by Ray Martino

When migrant farmworker Julia Martinez dropped out of school in the eighth grade to help support her family, the nation's migrant education program had not yet been created. Now a mother of nine children ages 6 to 24, Martinez works with migrant educators to see that migrant parents and children don't do as she did.

Martinez helps plan programs for parents and students as a member of a migrant education Parents Advisory Council in Pharr, Texas, a small town 12 miles from the Mexican border. "The migrant education program helps me to help my children," she says. "Migrant educators have come to our

have more than 4,000 migrant parents involved in 430 parent advisory councils throughout the state."

The councils vary in size, composition and emphasis depending on the locality. In Texas, for example, councils are active in each of the more than 300 school districts with migrant programs.

Extending the councils

Annual statewide conferences extend the parents' council structure. In California, from 600 to 700 parents

grams, financial contributions and volunteer efforts from businesses and individuals often provide services for migrants that would otherwise not be available. The Robert A. and Betty M. Tidwell Foundation is one example of private support for migrant health.

According to William Hansen, executive director of the Tidwell Foundation, the organization disseminates information about migrant health programs and lobbies for better government services for migrants. "We often provide third-party assistance for migrant kids through referrals, and we sometimes supply funds for emergency care for patients who 'fall through the cracks,' " he says. Educators and health providers need to be linked, Hansen

passed among sc... The desire to... health curricula... tion that could... to Project HA... ness Patterns,... Encouraging... veloped by ... education pr... U.S. Depar... PIER uses... education,... for identify... priorities...

Migrant educators battle children's health problems

by Ray Martino

The challenges of the classroom can at times seem intimidating to any student, but to the child of migrant agricultural workers they often are

Few served

The Office of Migrant Health has an annual budget of about $4 million to operate migrant health clinics in four rural areas throughout the nation. However, its programs reach only about 17%, or 500,000, of the estimated 3 million migrants in the United States.

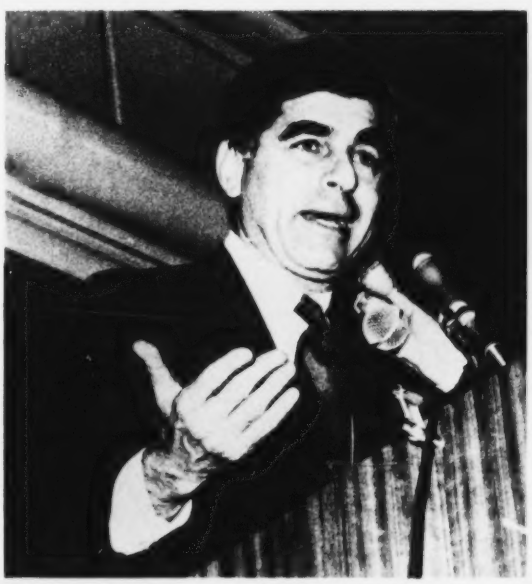
Because inadequate financial support for migrant health programs makes it impossible to serve most of those in need, migrant educators often use portions of their funding for health-related purposes.

In **New York** State, the migrant education program devotes about

The National Forum for Youth At Risk

December 10-12, 1987, Washington, D.C.

Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, chair of the National Forum, with student panel members.



Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis spoke during opening session of the Forum.

A. Craig Phillips, North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Instruction, was Forum luncheon speaker.

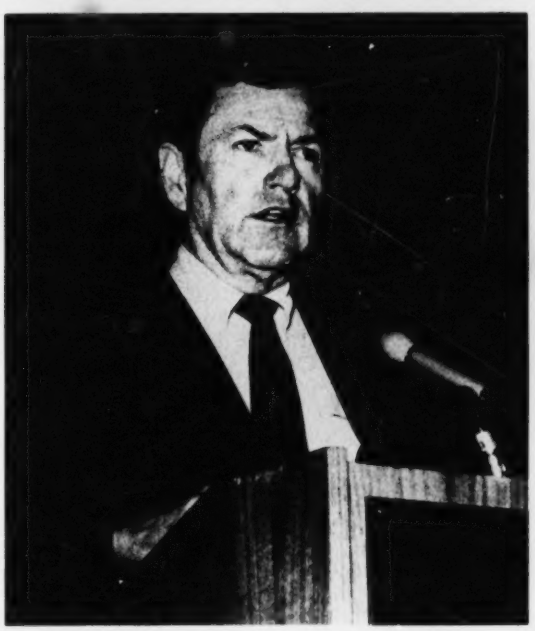
Forum work group participants Jesse Vela, coordinator of the Texas Migrant Interstate Program, and William Kirby, Texas State Commissioner of Education.

Pennsylvania Congressman William Goodling, an IMEC member, discussed Federal issues with Forum participants.

Owen Bradford Butler, retired chairman of the board of Proctor and Gamble Corporation, described the Committee for Economic Development's report, "Children in Need."

ECS President Frank Newman and IMEC Senior Project Consultant John D. Perry at Forum proceedings.

Rochester, New York, City School Superintendent Peter McWalters described Rochester's school reform efforts at Forum. At left is Rita Augustine, vice president of the Urban League of Rochester.



Eastman Kodak Company President Kay Whitmore discussed the economic aspects of the school dropout problem during closing session of the Forum.

Missouri Governor John Ashcroft participated in Forum panel discussion.

Looking to the future

An important 1988-89 IMEC project year is under way. IMEC will continue to gather information on major issues facing migrant education to insure that state and federal policymakers plan for future changes and serve all eligible migrant students.

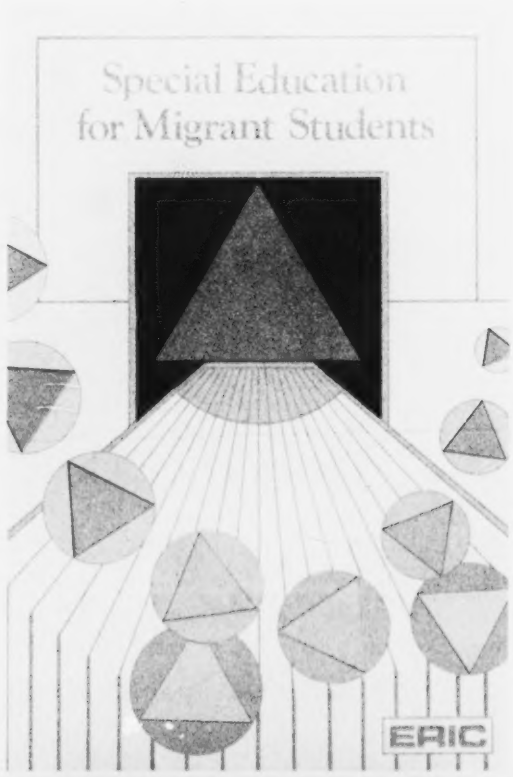
The Council has created three task forces to focus on activities related to major migrant education issues: Early Childhood Services; Transition from Secondary to Post-Secondary Education; and Full Funding of Migrant Education. Each Task Force has co-chairs selected from among the Council membership. At the Atlanta meeting, the task forces examined current available information and tentatively established short-term and long-term goals. These goals will be finalized in December, 1988, and become the basis of the Council's activities during 1989.

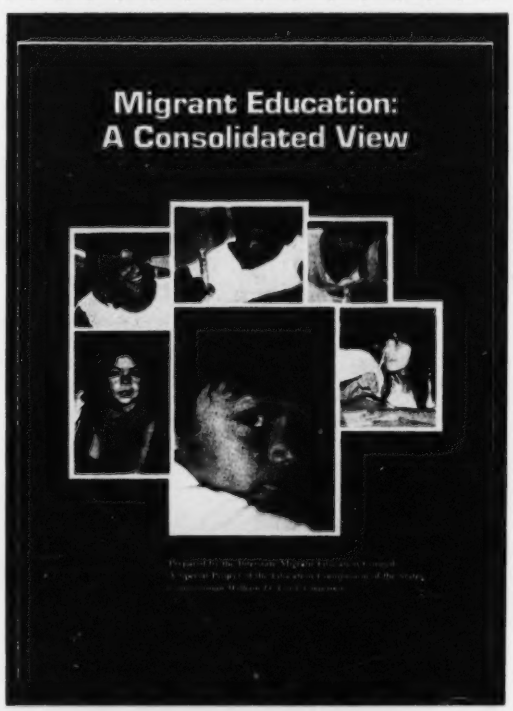
The Early Childhood Services Task Force will monitor all relevant federal legislation, develop a policy statement concerning services for migrant children and develop contacts with the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Association of State Boards of Education.

The Transition from Secondary to Post-Secondary Education Task Force will determine all services currently available that migrant programs and youth may utilize. It will try to develop coordination procedures within migrant education, with other programs and with private business.

The Full-Funding of Migrant Education Task Force will determine the cost of new mandates in the federal law to serve three-and four-year-olds and the group ages 18-21, and the cost of serving all eligible youth between ages five and 17 who are now not being served.

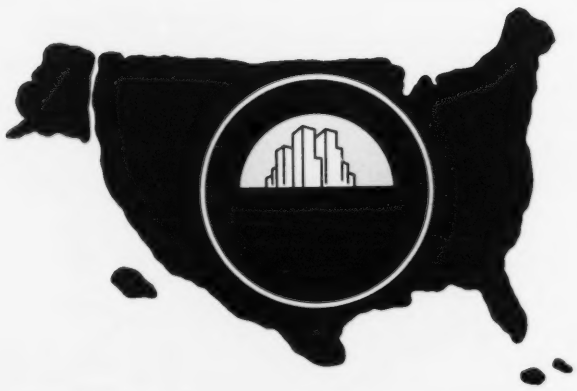
The Council, under the distinguished leadership of Congressman Ford and through the efforts of dedicated members, has continued to serve the migrant student well, but much remains to be accomplished. IMEC will continue to pursue its mission with a deep commitment to providing quality educational opportunities to the children of migrant workers.





IMEC publications Special Education for Migrant Students *and* Migrant Education: A Consolidated View *have attracted national attention.*

The National Forum



for Youth At Risk

The above logo for the National Forum for Youth At Risk combines the major features of the logos of the Education Commission of the States and Migrant Education. Nearly 600 educators and policymakers from across the country gathered in Washington, D.C., in December, 1987, at the National Forum, a special joint project of the Education Commission of the States and the Interstate Migrant Education Council.